

REMARKS

The Specification has been amended to correct typographical/administrative errors.

Claims 12-13 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 4-6, 10-11, 15-17, and 20 have been amended to clarify the subject matter regarded as the invention. New Claims 21-22 have been added. Claims 1-11 and 14-22 are pending.

The Examiner has objected to Claim 10 for containing an informality. Claim 10 has been amended in a manner believed to overcome the Examiner's objection to that claim.

The Examiner has rejected Claim 20 under 35 U.S.C. §101 and 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. Claim 20 has been amended in a manner believed to overcome the Examiner's rejections of that claim.

The Examiner has rejected Claims 5, 6, and 15-17 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as being indefinite. Those claims have been amended in a manner believed to overcome the Examiner's rejections of those claims.

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Wang (6,604,107). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 as amended recites that "the generated lot listing indicates a plurality of items to be auctioned as a lot in an electronic auction." Wang describes a database that includes a generic attribute table, an attribute validity table, an attribute value table, and an attribute map table. The generic attribute table defines all of the attributes across all of the items in all of the different categories that are included in the database. (Wang, 3:6-8). The Wang database includes attributes that can be shared across different categories of products (e.g., a color attribute is used with both automobiles and shoes). (Wang, 3:39-50). The Examiner suggests that Wang describes "generating a lot listing from the identified listing of items" as recited in Claim 1 at 5:5-16. That portion of Wang discloses that items listed in the Wang database each have a unique identifier. Applicants can find no mention in Wang of "generating a lot listing from the identified listing of items" "wherein the generated lot listing indicates a plurality of items to be

auctioned as a lot in an electronic auction” as recited in Claim 1. Therefore Claim 1 is believed to be allowable.

As with Claim 1, independent Claims 10, 11, and 20 similarly recite “generating a lot listing” and are believed to be allowable for the same reasons described above.


Claims 2-9, 14-19 and new Claims 21-22 claims depend, directly or indirectly, from one of the foregoing claims and are believed to be allowable for the same reasons described above.

The foregoing amendments are not to be taken as an admission of unpatentability of any of the claims prior to the amendments.

Reconsideration of the application and allowance of all claims are respectfully requested based on the preceding remarks. If at any time the Examiner believes that an interview would be helpful, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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